

Message Text

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ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 INT-05 GSA-01 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4951

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 3681

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ETRD, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN FERROUS SCRAP REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF
1975

REF: STATE 241649

1. WILLIAM BLACK, CHIEF, IRON AND STEEL DEVISION, DEPARTMENT
OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE (ITC) HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY
WITH FOLLOWING DATE (IN SHORT TONS OF 2,000 POUNDS)
RESPONSIVE TO QUESTIONS REFTEL:

A. STEEL PRODUCTION FORECASTS FOR FIRST AND SECOND
QUARTERS 1975 ARE 3.1 MILLION AND 3.2 MILLION TONS,
RESPECTIVELY.

B. TOTAL IMPORT REQUIREMENTS, ALL FROM U.S. AND ASSUMING
NO U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS, ARE ESTIMATED AT 300,000 TONS
EACH QUARTER FOR STEEL MILLS AND 25,000 TONS EACH
QUARTER FOR FOUNDRIES.

C. STEEL MILLS' ESTIMATED INVENTORY POSITION PRESENTLY
IS 8 TO 10 WEEKS, RELECTING NORMAL WINTER BUILD-UP.
NO ESTIMATE AVAILABLE FOR FOUNDRIES' INVENTORIES, AS
THIS WOULD REQUIRE CANVASS OF SOME 350 FOUNDRIES,
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MANY OF THEM QUITE SMALL.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES FOREGOING INFORMATION IS MOST RELIABLE AVAILABLE.

3. BLACK SAID THERE IS NO REPEAT NO LIKELIHOOD OF CANADA NOT TAKING UP FULL U.S. EXPORT QUOTA FOR FOURTH QUARTER.

4. BLACK WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON AGENCIES' CONSIDERATION OF HIS SUGGESTION THAT U.S. INCREASE QUOTAS FOR COUNTRIES (CANADA) SUPPLYING SCRAP TO U.S. BY AMOUNT OF THOSE SUPPLIES, AND MAKE ADDITIONAL QUOTAS AVAILABLE TO DEALERS OF NON-HISTORIC RECORD. HE SAID CANADA HISTORICALLY (BEFORE U.S. CONTROLS) EXPORTED 90,000 TONS QUARTERLY TO U.S., AND ESTIMATED THAT 50,000 TONS PER QUARTER PRESENTLY MOVING TO U.S. FROM CANADA. HE CLAIMED U.S. HAS SURPLUS OF SCRAP IN MIDWEST, WHICH CANADA NEEDS (RATHER THAN DOMESTIC SCRAP OF A TYPE AND AT LOCATIONS PREVENTING ECONOMIC UTILIZATION).

5. BLACK ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER U.S. COAL STRIKE, SAYING THAT GREAT LAKES SHIPPING STRIKE LAST SUMMER HAD RETARDED BUILD-UP OF CANADIAN STEEL COMPANIES' NORMAL WINTER STOCKPILES AND SHIPPING CANNOT MOVE JANUARY-APRIL BECAUSE OF ICE. HE THEREFORE HOPED HIS LATEST INDICATIONS FROM CANADIAN INDUSTRY SOURCES, THAT STRIKE WOULD BE OF SHORT DURATION, WERE CORRECT.

PORTER

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Message Attributes

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